

trade areas as it receives further consideration.●

HOW COLORBLIND ADOPTIONS CHANGED AND ENRICHED OUR LIVES

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, for several years I had an outstanding staff member, Pamela J. Huey, who, unfortunately for me, moved to Minneapolis with her husband and family.

She was not only a superb staff person but she is a genuine humanitarian.

She and her husband have adopted two African-American children. I have seen Benjamin develop into a fine young man and their new child, Anthony, I am sure will do the same.

She has written for the Minneapolis Star Tribune an article titled, "Colorblind Adoptions Changed and Enriched Our Lives."

I ask that her article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Minneapolis Star Tribune, Jan. 29, 1995]

COLORBLIND ADOPTIONS CHANGED AND ENRICHED OUR LIVES (By Pamela Huey)

The national debate on welfare reform, teenage pregnancy and orphanages demands another look at transracial adoption as one positive alternative for children who need stable, loving homes.

While some within the African-American community and other minorities continue to oppose the adoption of children of color by Caucasian parents, I would argue that such adoptions are not only successful but desirable, producing benefits for parents, children and society as a whole.

Five years ago, childless and wanting to start a family, my husband and I approached an agency in Washington, D.C., specializing in foreign adoptions. But the paperwork, red tape, cost and prospect of spending an undetermined amount of time in another country were daunting.

We learned our agency did receive "domestic" placements but these children were nearly always black or biracial. We wondered why, if there were babies in our own country in need of loving, nurturing homes, would anyone travel halfway around the world for a baby? Skin color seemed the only answer. We told the agency that the race of the child did not matter—a baby was a baby—and within seven months we were parents of a beautiful black 17-day-old boy. This Christmas, we became parents of Anthony, a 6-week-old African-American baby, also born in Washington, D.C.

Adopting Benjamin and Anthony has changed and enriched our lives in profound ways that we did not anticipate.

When we moved to the Twin Cities in 1992, we chose an integrated neighborhood in south Minneapolis.

The church we chose, Park Avenue United Methodist, has a spiritual mission to increase understanding between the races and to bring people together as one to worship God.

Benjamin attends Seed Academy, a private school with an Afrocentric curriculum.

We've attended classes for multicultural families. We've participated in the YMCA's "home team" program for multicultural families. The Twin Cities area seems to have no end of opportunities for us.

But most importantly, we have a perspective on race relations and racial prejudice

that we otherwise would never have had. The love of parent for child has no equal, and loving Benjamin and Anthony was given us a window on a world previously closed to us. Now, as parents, we hurt for the young black males who are considered threats just because of their race.

Interracial adoption breaks down barriers and increases understanding in new ways that filter through the extended family. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters and cousins, even neighbors and family friends, also are exposed to this new understanding and a family love that crosses racial lines.

We hope growing up in our racially blended family will give Benjamin and Anthony skills for living in both white and black worlds and that their worlds will be more human and loving, rather than divided along racial lines.

Harvard Law Prof. Elizabeth Bartholet wrote in the May 1991 issue of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review that "transracial adoptees appear more positive than blacks raised inracially about relationships with whites, more comfortable in those relationships and more interested in a racially integrated lifestyle."

American University Prof. Rita Simon, who has done exhaustive studies on the long-term effects of these adoptions, has written that transracial adoptees perceive "their world as essentially pluralistic and multicolored."

We hope we are not being naive. We know Benjamin and Anthony will face racism and hatred in future years, and we are trying to prepare them for that.

As we prepared for our second adoption, I asked Benjamin what kind of sister or brother he would like. His first response was "black." But then he thought for a moment and responded, "Any color would be OK."

Pamela Huey is a journalist who lives in Minneapolis.●

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask that the rules of procedure and jurisdiction of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be printed in the RECORD.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

(Adopted in executive session, January 11, 1995)

RULE 1.—REGULAR MEETING DATE FOR COMMITTEE

The regular meeting day for the Committee to transact its business shall be the last Tuesday in each month that the Senate is in Session; except that if the Committee has met at any time during the month prior to the last Tuesday of the month, the regular meeting of the Committee may be canceled at the discretion of the Chairman.

RULE 2.—COMMITTEE

(a) *Investigations.*—No investigation shall be initiated by the Committee unless the Senate, or the full Committee, or the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member have specifically authorized such investigation.

(b) *Hearings.*—No hearing of the Committee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia except by agreement between the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

(c) *Confidential testimony.*—No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Committee or any report of the proceedings

of such executive session shall be made public either in whole or in part by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

(d) *Interrogation of witnesses.*—Committee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Committee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(e) *Prior notice of markup sessions.*—No session of the Committee or a Subcommittee for marking up any measure shall be held unless (1) each member of the Committee or the Subcommittee, as the case may be, has been notified in writing of the date, time, and place of such session and has been furnished a copy of the measure to be considered at least 3 business days prior to the commencement of such session, or (2) the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee determines that exigent circumstances exist requiring that the session be held sooner.

(f) *Prior notice of first degree amendments.*—It shall not be in order for the Committee or a Subcommittee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless (1) fifty written copies of such amendment have been delivered to the office of the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting, or (2) with respect to multiple first degree amendments, each of which would strike a single section of the measure under consideration, fifty copies of a single written notice listing such specific sections have been delivered to the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. An amendment to strike a section of the measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee shall not be amendable in the second degree by the Senator offering the amendment to strike. This subsection may be waived by a majority of the members of the Committee or Subcommittee voting, or by agreement of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member. This subsection shall apply only when at least 3 business days written notice of a session to markup a measure is required to be given under subsection (e) of this rule.

(g) *Cordon rule.*—Whenever a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part thereof shall be before the Committee or Subcommittee, from initial consideration in hearings through final consideration, the Clerk shall place before each member of the Committee or Subcommittee a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or repealed showing by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted, and in italics, the matter proposed to be added. In addition, whenever a member of the Committee or Subcommittee offers an amendment to a bill or joint resolution under consideration, those amendments shall be presented to the Committee or Subcommittee in a like form, showing by typographical devices the effect of the proposed amendment on existing law. The requirements of this subsection may be waived when, in the opinion of the Committee or Subcommittee Chairman, it is necessary to expedite the business of the Committee or Subcommittee.

RULE 3.—SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) *Authorization for.*—A Subcommittee of the Committee may be authorized only by the action of a majority of the Committee.

(b) *Membership.*—No member may be a member of more than three Subcommittees and no member may chair more than one Subcommittee. No member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in